

## Project

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

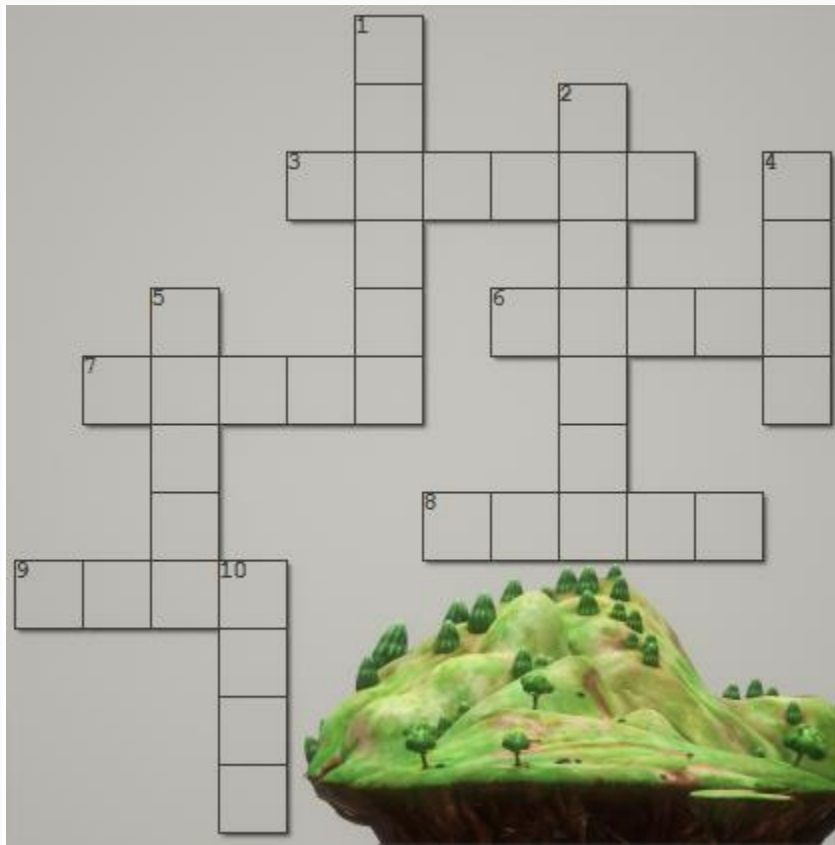
Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

# Soil Science: Crossword Puzzle

In this activity, you'll check your knowledge regarding the definition, types, and layers of the soil within the Earth's crust.

## Directions

Complete the crossword by filling in a word that fits each of the given clues. For this activity, you'll need a printer to reproduce the following page. With a pencil and an eraser, neatly write your answers in the boxes provided.



## Across

3. A soil horizon makes up five distinct \_\_\_\_\_ of soil, starting from the topmost portion to the base.
6. Clay is a type of soil where \_\_\_\_\_ tends to puddle rather than soak in.
7. The natural organic bits found in the soil formed from the biological decomposition of plant and animals is called \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The bedrock is a layer of solid \_\_\_\_\_ that exist at some depth below the ground.

9. \_\_\_\_\_ is a mixture of organic matter, minerals, gases, liquids, and organisms that together support life.

## Down

1. \_\_\_\_\_ absorb carbon dioxide from the soil to produce food and release oxygen into the air.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ matter is any material produced originally by living organisms that are returned to the soil and undergoes a decomposition process.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to unclean matter, especially when in contact with a person's clothes, skin, or possessions.

5. Decomposers, such as bacteria and \_\_\_\_\_, are found in the soil and aid in breaking down dead plant and animal matter.

10. Most common garden plants prefer \_\_\_\_\_ soil due to the balance of different-sized mineral particles (sand, silt, and clay).

### Answer Key

